

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Tony Baker
 APPLICATION NUMBER: 09/805,785
 FILING DATE: March 13, 2001
 FOR: *METHODS AND REAGENTS FOR PRESERVATION OF DNA IN BODILY FLUIDS*
 EXAMINER: Jehanne Souaya
 ART UNIT: 1655

Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend this application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-14 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following claims:

- C'
22. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein said nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of DNA, RNA, mRNA, and cDNA.
 23. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein said DNA is eukaryotic DNA.
 24. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein said hybridization occurs in a molecular assay selected from the group consisting of the polymerase chain reaction, ligase chain technology test, and a genetic transformation test.

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesy of an interview at the Patent and Trademark Office on February 12, 2002, during which the present case was discussed. This preliminary amendment is submitted further to the interview.

Applicant has amended the claims so as to clarify and more particularly indicate the claimed subject matter. Claims 1-14 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, as these claims are pending in U.S. Application No. 09/882,871. The amendment is made for the sole purpose of expediting prosecution. Support for new claims 22-24 may be found, e.g., at page 4, last paragraph. No new matter is added. Accordingly, *claims 15-24 are in the case*.

On the basis of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If there are any questions regarding these

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amendments and remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number provided below.

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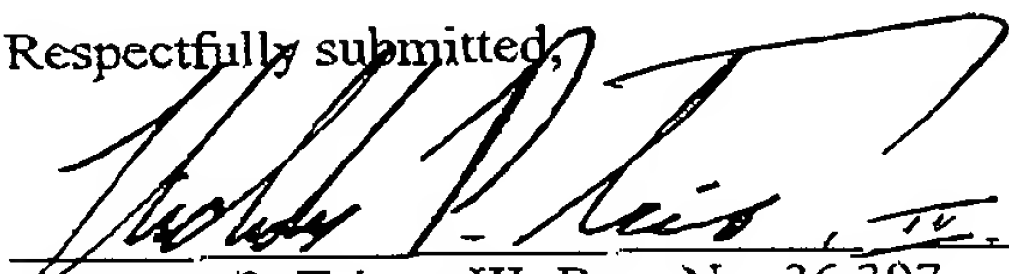
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February 13, 2002

Date


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Respectfully submitted,


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DATE: February 25, 2002

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To:

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MESSAGE:

In accordance with our conversation today, attached is a courtesy copy of the Preliminary Amendment that was faxed on February 13, 2002.

Nicholas P. Triano, III, Esq.

We are sending a total of 3 pages, including this cover sheet.

Please call us at 617 654 8024, if you experience any problems.

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